

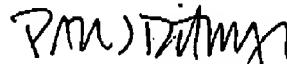
In re Patent Application of  
FRUHAUF  
Serial No. 09/686,327  
Filed: OCTOBER 11, 2000

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 remain in this application. By this amendment, Claim 1 has been amended to correct a formal matter. Specifically, the phrase "connected to the switching block" was deleted for clarity (antecedent) and consistency with the other independent device/system Claims 10 and 18. The amendment is needed for proper protection of the invention and compliance with 35 USC §112. The amendment requires no substantial amount of additional work on the part of the Examiner because, as mentioned, Claim 1 is now consistent with the other independent Claims 10 and 18 which have been allowed. The claims are patentable as no prior art was applied against the claims. The change was only recently discovered during post allowance analysis of the application and therefore was not presented earlier.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the amendment should be properly entered. If there are any concerns, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing correspondence has been forwarded via facsimile number 1-703-872-9306 to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 this 21<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2005.

Skinner